



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

**To:** High School Principals  
Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Authorizers and Directors of Public School Academies

**From:** Jeremy M. Hughes, Ph.D.,  
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

**Date:** May 4, 2007

**SUBJ: MICHIGAN END-OF-COURSE EXAMS FOR  
ALGEBRA I AND GEOMETRY**

As I mentioned in my memorandum to you dated April 5, 2007, staff of the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) have been working on a prototype of end-of-course examinations for the areas of Algebra I and Geometry. I am writing to indicate that these prototypes are now ready for use by local districts. A copy of each examination and answer key is available.

The examinations are available through the secure OEAA website. This secure website can be accessed by your district's MEAP coordinator as well as the Test Supervisor in each high school that gave the Michigan Merit Examination this spring.

To access the OEAA Secure Site, go to the website address [www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure](http://www.michigan.gov/oeaa-secure).

Enter your assigned User ID and Password and click the "Log In" button. If you do not have an assigned User ID and Password, verify with your District MEAP Coordinator to find out the authorized users of the OEAA Secure Site within your district. The Secondary Credit Examinations are posted below the Student Search Results on the Student Search page.

Each examination is provided in Adobe Acrobat pdf format. This will permit you to download a copy of this examination. As the copyright notice indicates, local districts have permission from the Department to make copies of the examination for non-profit use. These tests are owned by the Michigan State Board of Education and are not to be loaded into item banks or otherwise distributed without written permission from OEAA.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

KATHLEEN N. STRAUS – PRESIDENT • JOHN C. AUSTIN – VICE PRESIDENT  
CAROLYN L. CURTIN – SECRETARY • MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE – TREASURER  
NANCY DANHOF – NASBE DELEGATE • ELIZABETH W. BAUER  
REGINALD M. TURNER • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • (517) 373-3324

These exams were written by Michigan educators last summer and were pilot-tested in Michigan classrooms in January. They represent a first attempt to create instruments that schools can use. They cannot at this time be considered the official state end-of-course exams but are being provided at the request of districts that would like some state instrument to verify the rigor of their classes or, in some cases, to use for purposes of student assessment.

At this time, no testing services (printing of test booklets and answer documents, assessment administration services, scoring and reporting) are available. Districts, however, may print, use, and score the prototype exams to assess students who have taken these course/credit areas and/or to help gauge the extent to which current course content is aligned with the High School Content Expectations for Algebra I and Geometry. Because the pilot numbers were not sufficiently large to enable the Department to indicate a definitive cut score for passing or earning credit, the Department is recommending that schools use a 70% score as a passing score.

We suggest that you use these assessments as only one part of students' grades in these courses. We recommend that they not comprise more than 25% of students' final course grades and that the tests not be used alone to determine whether or not students receive credit for the course.

Please note that we placed the tests on the secure website so that they will be available for use by local districts that wish to assess students' achievement at the end of Algebra I or Geometry this spring. Therefore, we ask that you not post these examinations electronically nor circulate them to staff, parents, or students. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

If you have any questions about this memorandum, the examinations, or how they might be used, please feel free to contact Ed Roeber via e-mail at [roeber@michigan.gov](mailto:roeber@michigan.gov) or at (517) 373-0739.